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General Assembly

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Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly in 2001 for Follow-up to the World Summit for Children
First substantive session
New York, 30 May-2 June 2000

Draft report of the Preparatory Committee at its first substantive session

I. Introduction

1. At its fifty-fourth session, the General Assembly adopted resolution 54/93 of 7 December 1999, entitled "Special session of the General Assembly in 2001 for follow-up to the World Summit for Children". In paragraph 6 of the resolution, the Assembly decided to establish an open-ended preparatory committee to prepare for the outcome of the special session.

2. In paragraph 8 of resolution 54/93 the General Assembly requested the Preparatory Committee to convene one organizational session on 7 and 8 February 2000 and one substantive session from 30 May to 2 June 2000 and to propose to the General Assembly its requirements for further meetings in 2001.

II. Organizational matters

3. The Preparatory Committee held its first substantive session at United Nations Headquarters from 30 May to 2 June 2000. In the course of its session, the Preparatory Committee held ___ plenary meetings and two meetings for panel discussions. The Committee also held meetings for informal consultations.

4. The session was opened by the Chairperson of the Preparatory Committee, Ambassador Patricia Durrant (Jamaica), who made an opening statement.

5. The Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), Carol Bellamy, also made a statement.

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A. Adoption of the agenda

6. At its 1st meeting, on 30 May 2000, the Preparatory Committee adopted the provisional agenda for the first substantive session (A/AC.256/4), as follows:

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Organization of work.
4. Introduction of the report of the Secretary-General.
5. Organizational arrangements for the preparatory process and the special session:
   (a) Date and duration of further substantive sessions;
   (b) Provisional agenda for the second substantive session;
   (c) Participation of non-governmental organizations in the special session.
6. Consideration of proposed outline of the outcome of the special session: identification of key issues and trends.
7. Adoption of the report of the Preparatory Committee at its first substantive session.
8. Other matters.

B. Documentation

7. The Preparatory Committee had the following documents before it at the session:

(a) Report of the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly in 2001 for Follow-up to the World Summit for Children on its organizational session (A/55/43 (Part I));

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on emerging issues for children in the twenty-first century (A/AC.256/3-E/ICEF/2000/13);

(c) Provisional agenda (A/AC.256/4);

(d) Provisional annotated agenda (A/AC.256/4/Add.1);

(e) Report of the Secretary-General on update on the preparatory process for the special session of the General Assembly in 2001 for follow-up to the World Summit for Children (A/AC.256/5);

(f) Debate on the document entitled "Emerging issues for children in the twenty-first century" (A/AC.256/3-E/ICEF/2000/13) held at the annual session of the Executive Board of UNICEF (A/AC.256/6);

(g) Draft decision on participation of non-governmental organizations in the preparatory process (A/AC.256/L.2);

(h) Draft decision on substantive sessions of the Preparatory Committee in 2001 (A/AC.256/L.3);

(i) Draft decision on dates of the special session of the General Assembly in 2001 for follow-up to the World Summit for Children (A/AC.256/L.4);

(j) Draft decision on arrangements for accreditation of non-governmental organizations in the special session (A/AC.256/L.5/Rev.1);

(k) Draft decision on participation of members of regional commissions (A/AC.256/L.6);

(l) Draft decision on arrangements regarding participation of non-governmental organizations in the special session of the General Assembly in 2001 for follow-up to the World Summit for Children (A/AC.256/L.7);

(m) Draft report of the Preparatory Committee at its first substantive session (A/AC.256/L.8);

(n) Draft programme of work (A/AC.256/CRP.1);

(o) Note by the Secretariat on arrangements for accreditation and participation of non-governmental organizations (A/AC.256/CRP.2);

(p) Draft provisional agenda for the second substantive session (A/AC.256/CRP.3);

(q) Provisional programme of work for the second substantive session (A/AC.256/CRP.4).

III. Organizational arrangements for the preparatory process and the special session

8. At the 1st meeting of the Preparatory Committee, on 30 May 2000, the Deputy Executive Director of UNICEF introduced the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Emerging issues for children in the twenty-first century" (A/AC.256/3).

9. The Preparatory Committee considered agenda items 4, 5 and 6 at its 1st to 4th meetings, from 30 May to 1 June 2000. Statements were made by a number of delegations, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations. In that regard, various proposals were put forward. Moreover, the Chairman made a summary on the debate regarding emerging issues for children in the twenty-first century, which is contained in the annex to the present report.

10. At its 3rd meeting, on 1 June, the Preparatory Committee adopted the decision on the participation of non-governmental organizations in the preparatory process (A/AC.256/L.2), which reads as follows:

[*To be inserted in final report.*]

11. In accordance with decision 1 adopted at its organizational session, the Preparatory Committee held three panel discussions, on 30 and 31 May. The summaries of the panel discussions by the respective Chairman are contained in the annex to the present report.

A. Date and duration of further substantive sessions

12. At its 4th meeting, on 1 June 2000, the Preparatory Committee adopted the decision on substantive sessions of the Preparatory Committee in 2001 (A/AC.256/L.3), which reads as follows:

[*To be inserted in final report.*]

13. Also at the 4th meeting, the Preparatory Committee adopted the decision on dates and duration of the special session (A/AC.256/L.4), which reads as follows:

[*To be inserted in final report.*]

B. Provisional agenda for the second substantive session

14. Also at the 4th meeting, the Preparatory Committee adopted the draft provisional agenda for the second substantive session (A/AC.256/CRP.3), which reads as follows:

[*To be inserted in final report.*]

15. Additionally at the 4th meeting the Preparatory Committee adopted, as orally amended, the provisional programme of work for the second substantive session (A/AC.256/CRP.4), which reads as follows:

[*To be inserted in final report.*]

C. Participation of non-governmental organizations in the special session

16. Furthermore, at its 4th meeting, the Preparatory Committee adopted the decision, as orally amended, on arrangements for accreditation of non-governmental organizations in the special session (A/AC.256/L.5/Rev.1), which reads as follows:

[*To be inserted in final report.*]

17. At its ___ meeting, on ___ June, the Preparatory Committee adopted the decision on arrangements regarding participation of non-governmental organizations in the special session (A/AC.256/7), which reads as follows:

[*To be inserted in final report.*]

18. Also at the 4th meeting, the Preparatory Committee adopted the decision, as orally amended, on the participation of associate members of regional commissions (A/AC.256/L.6), which reads as follows:

[*To be inserted in final report.*]

IV. Consideration of the proposed outline of the outcome of the special session: identification of key issues and trends

19. The Preparatory Committee considered agenda item 6 regarding the proposed outline of the outcome of the special session at its 3rd and 4th meetings, on 1 June 2000. Statements and suggestions were made by many delegations.

20. At its 4th meeting, on 1 June, based on the agreement reached in informal consultations, the Preparatory Committee agreed to authorize its Bureau, with the support of the substantive secretariat, to prepare a draft outcome document, taking into account the views expressed during the first substantive session of the Preparatory Committee, for consideration at the second substantive session in the first instance. It was proposed that the document in its first draft would be made available to Member States in November 2000.

V. Adoption of the report of the Preparatory Committee at its first substantive session

21. At its 5th meeting on 2 June 2000, the Preparatory Committee took note of the summaries by the Chairmen at its first substantive session (see annex).

22. Also at the 5th meeting, the Preparatory Committee adopted the draft report of its first substantive session (A/AC.256/L.8).

Annex

Summaries by the Chairmen

I. Panel discussion I: Review and assessment, including constraints encountered in implementing the goals of the World Summit for Children

[*Summary by the Chairman of Panel I to be added*]

II. Panel discussion II: (a) Emerging issues

[*Summary by the Chairman of Panel II (a) to be added*]

III. Panel discussion II: (b) Future action for children

IV. Summary by the Chairman of the Preparatory Committee on the debate regarding emerging issues for children in the twenty-first century

[*Summary by the Chairman to be added*]